



United Nations Environment Programme

برنامج الأمم المتحدة للبيئة • 联合国环境规划署

PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE

ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

Your reference:

Our reference:

16 September 2002

Dear Governor Whitman,

The International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer commemorates the signing of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and offers an opportunity to focus attention and action on protection of the ozone layer. On the occasion of the 15th Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has many reasons to celebrate the success of this landmark treaty.

In 1978, nearly a decade before the Protocol was signed, the United States banned chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) in certain aerosol applications due to concerns that these chemicals were destroying the ozone layer. An early supporter of ozone protection, the United States made significant contributions to the world in the area of ozone science and played a key role in developing a comprehensive global plan of action to protect the ozone layer. In addition to providing scientific, technical and policy support, the United States has been a steadfast supporter and innovator in the Protocol's Multilateral Fund and its efforts to assist developing countries to phase out ozone depleting substances.

The success achieved during the past 15 years should guide our way into the XXI Century. Although there are hopeful signs for recovery of the ozone layer, scientists predict that the ozone layer will be particularly vulnerable this decade. Today, more than ever, the continued support and leadership of the United States is vital to ensure full recovery of this life-sustaining system for the benefit of present and future generations.

Sincerely,

Marco González
Executive Secretary
Ozone Secretariat

Governor Christine Todd Whitman, Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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USA